

PRAYER CARD LEAFLET.

SUBJECTS FOR PRAYER.

MARCH.

For Japan.

That divine direction may be given to the rulers at this crisis—that Christianity may be permanently established, and our educational and evangelistic work greatly prospered and extended.

SCRIPTURE READINGS.—*Psalm cxv. 1-8; John iii. 14-22.*

Zipangu, or the Empire of the Rising Sun, as her people delight to call her, is situated in the North Pacific Ocean, east of China and Corea. It consists of a group of several hundred islands.

Of these, Nippon is the largest and most important, and all our mission stations are here, dotting the centre of the island like so many cities of refuge.

In 1859, Protestant missions were introduced, and thirty years afterwards the census showed 443 missionaries, 25,514 members, and 16,674 Sabbath School children, in addition to the devotees of the Roman Catholic and Greek Churches. The prospects of our Protestant religion here are very favorable; the increase of members in 1888 being 5,785, and the increase of contributions \$16,000, the total contributions from the Japanese for Protestant work in that year being \$48,000. This is encouraging, when we consider that the majority of these Christians receive a salary of not more than twenty-five cents a day, though our missionaries assure us that our religion is not confined to the humble classes, but that Christians may now be found through all the grades from Coolie to President of Parliament, our own Church having a fair representation among the influential ones.